

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /030 W  
----- 074300

R 311439Z DEC 75  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO JOHN WARNER  
VOLLMER ASSOCIATES  
62 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY  
TEL : 212-691-3800  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5715  
USDOC WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5237

USDOC FOR CAGNE

ATHENS FOR RTDO (LEFEAVER)

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BEXP, SY  
SUBJ: SYRIAN LABOR, MATERIAL COSTS

DEAR MR. WARNER:

RE: YOUR RECENT INQUIRY: (1) UNSKILLED LABOR RATES AVERAGE 20-22 SYRIAN POUNDS PER 8-HOUR DAY (ONE US DOLLAR EQUALS 3.65 SYRIAN POUNDS); RATES RAPIDLY RISING, OWING TO MANY PROJECTS UNDERWAY AND LABOR SHORTAGE; UNSKILLED LABOR DREW ONLY 7 POUNDS A DAY TWO YEARS AGO. (2) SKILLED CARPENTERS DRAW 7-8 POUNDS PER HOUR; MECHANICS, TRACTOR AND CRANE OPERATORS, 1200-1500 POUNDS PER MONTH. (3) SAND AND GRAVEL COSTS 20-25 POUNDS PER CUBIC METER, DEPENDING ON SITE. (4) CEMENT: 140 SYRIAN POUNDS PER TON, PLUS 20 POUND MUNICIPAL TAX PER TON. (5) LUMBER: 850 POUNDS PER CUBIC METER. PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP US INFORMED OF YOUR INTEREST IN HOUSING, HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION TENDERS. ROD WRIGHT AND I LOOK DORWARD TO MEETING YOUR ENGINEER,  
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ORESTES LAZARIDES, WHEN HE ARRIVES DAMASCUS. LET US KNOW

HIS ETA. /S/ MICHAEL DAVIS, COMMERCIAL OFFICER.  
MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** BEXP, SY  
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